

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method of configuring a network access device having a first
2 network address allocated to a subscriber of services of the first service provider provided
3 by a first service network, with a new network address allocated to a subscriber of
4 services of a second service provider provided by a second service network, wherein the
5 network access device is connected to an access network connected to a plurality of
6 service networks, comprising the steps of:

7 displaying a plurality of service provider selections on a graphical user
8 interface;

9 in response to a subscriber selection on the graphical user interface,
10 sending a request from the network access device to the access network requesting a
11 change to a second service provider;

12 receiving a response from the access network; and
13 initiating a network address change request using a configuration protocol,
14 whereby, a second network address allocated to the subscriber of services
15 of the second service provider is assigned to the network access device, the second
16 network address being utilized by the network access device to communicate data packets
17 to the service network providing the selected service .

1 2. The method recited in Claim 1, wherein said request to said access
2 network includes an authentication request for the subscriber

1 3. The method recited in Claim 2, wherein said response received from
2 said access network includes an authentication status for the subscriber from the second
3 service provider and, if authenticated, initiating said network address change request.

1 4. The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the host configuration protocol
2 is a dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP).

1 5. The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the network access device
2 receives an Internet Protocol address.

1 6. A method of configuring a network access device having a first
2 network address allocated to a subscriber of services of the first service provider provided
3 by a first service network, with a new network address allocated to a subscriber of
4 services of a second service provider provided by a second service network, wherein the
5 network access device is connected to an access network connected to a plurality of
6 service networks, comprising the steps of:

7 displaying a plurality of service provider selections on a graphical user
8 interface;

9 in response to a subscriber selection on the graphical user interface,
10 sending a request from the network access device to the access network requesting a
11 change to a second service provider;

12 receiving a response from the access network; and

13 initiating a network address change request using a DHCP configuration
14 protocol,

15 whereby a second network address allocated to the subscriber of services
16 of the second service provider is assigned to the network access device, the second

- 17 network address being utilized by the network access device to communicate data packets
18 to the service network providing the selected service.